

Agency Information

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10014-10097

RECORD SERIES : MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF THE CHURCH COMMITTEE

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 07-M-03

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : SSCIA
FROM : SCHWARZ, FREDERICK A.O. JR.
TO : KNOCHE, E.H.

TITLE : CLERK CHRON JUNE 1975

DATE : 06/04/1975
PAGES : 13

SUBJECTS :
OPERATION MONGOOSE
ASSASSINATIONS

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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

Box 443

CLERK CHAN JUNE 75
OUT

June 4, 1975

Mr. E. H. Knoche
Assistant to the Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Room 7C28
Central Intelligence Headquarters
Langley, Virginia

Dear Hank:

On Monday morning, June 2, Burt Wides of our Staff relayed to you my request that various documents be made available to us, if possible, when Mr. Breckenridge testified that afternoon, or as soon as possible thereafter.

The Agency was not able to provide us with these documents when Mr. Breckenridge came to testify, but he indicated that they were being assembled. I agreed to furnish a letter confirming the earlier request, but emphasized to Mr. Breckenridge the importance of our obtaining these documents in connection with the inquiry this week. He agreed that the effort to collect them would go forward while the Agency was awaiting receipt of this letter.

The following are the items we would like to have as soon as possible, but in any event no later than the close of business on Thursday, so that we can use them in connection with Mr. McCone's testimony on Friday, June 6.

Mr. E. H. Knoche
Page two
June 4, 1975

- (1) The Inspector General's cover memorandum to the 1967 Report refers to three groups of papers used in preparing the Report: certain Office of Security files; certain MONGOOSE papers, and a memorandum concerning William Harvey.
- (2) Page 4 of the same cover memorandum cites and internal CIA study paper of October 1961 prepared in response to an inquiry from General Maxwell Taylor and discusses, inter alia, the impact of a leader's removal on the stability of a government.
- (3) Page 116 of the Report itself cites a June 18, 1964 communication from the DDP to the Director of the FBI, and page 117 cites an August 19, 1964 communication from Mr. McCone to Mr. Bundy.
- (4) In addition to these items we wish to review all portions of the files of Messrs J. C. King, Bissell, Edwards, O'Connell, Harvey, Dulles, McCone and Helms relating to the possibility of assassinating Fidel Castro or any attempts to do so.
- (5) The present whereabouts of Robert Owen, who served in the Dominican Republic for CIA in 1961 and Mr. Justin O'Donnell, who formerly worked for the Agency, and the identity and present whereabouts of the person(s) who was the Special Assistant to DDP in 1960 and 1961.
- (6) All outstanding items not yet provided which were requested in my letter of May 24.

We would, of course, appreciate having made as soon as possible any of the above items, even if the others are not yet available.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. O. Schwarz, Jr.

BW:nb

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1975

2:00 p.m. Full committee meeting
Cally testimony, S-126
Capitol

OTHER MEETINGS:

10:00 a.m. Lawrence Houston re
Legislative History CIA.
Houston's home/Marshall.

2:30 p.m. Dorothy Shilman re "OC"
files, Rm. 608 CA,
Gitenstein

3:30 p.m. Dick Harney re Legion of
Justice, German Law &
wiretape, Pentagon,
Dawson & Bidder

June 14, 1975

The Honorable Henry Kissinger
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

As you know, the Senate Select Committee on Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities is making a careful examination of all the circumstances surrounding involvement of the United States Government in assassination efforts. This inquiry is pursuant to the Committee's mandate under S. Res. 21 and, in addition, we have been assured by Counsel to the President, in implementation of the President's statements, that we will be supplied with all relevant documents.

The role of the Department of State in the conduct of foreign policy and as a participant in the mechanisms for control of the CIA make it imperative that we have certain documents relating to the assassination issue which may be held by the Department of State. Would you please provide the Senate Select Committee all documents relevant to the assassination of General Trujillo of the Dominican Republic, the assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam, and the proposals to assassinate Patrice Lumumba in the Congo and Fidel Castro in Cuba, as well as any other documents bearing upon assassinations.

It is necessary that the Select Committee thoroughly examine all aspects of alleged U.S. involvement in these cases. It is important also that any alleged assassination efforts be understood and evaluated in the larger context of governmental policy with respect to the nations at issue. For this reason, it is requested that you also make available to the Committee all memoranda, documents

and other papers prepared by the Department of State or its missions abroad, all cables including Eyes Only, NoDis, ExDis, LimDis, "Roger Channel" and other limited distribution messages and all minutes or other memoranda relating to meetings of the Special Group, the Special Group Augmented, the 5412 Committee (or other equivalent bodies) in the following categories (whether or not they specifically mention assassinations):

- The Dominican Republic from March 1960 to June 1961.
- The Congo from March 1960 to January 1961.
- South Vietnam from mid-August 1963 to mid-November 1963.
- With respect to Cuba for the period 1960 through 1965, please provide all material directly relating to any alleged efforts or plans to assassinate any Cuban leader. In addition, please supply any documents which relate to the policy of the government concerning the overthrow of the Castro government and whether there were or were not any limitations on the measures to be employed in this regard either in general or with respect to any particular time period[s/].

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Frank Church
Chairman

FAOS/do

SELCOM

File: _____

June 18, 1975

The Honorable Edward H. Levi
The Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

On May 12, 1975, I wrote to you making a general request for documents in the possession of the Department of Justice (including the FBI) which relate to the subject of planned or attempted or actual assassinations. I also specifically referred to a Justice Department file relating to the possible prosecution of a Mr. Giancana, and perhaps of others, for an allegedly illegal wiretap. On May 20, 1975, Department of Justice file #82-46-5 (relating to a Las Vegas wiretap matter and the alleged connection of the CIA therewith) was made available at the Department for review by Messrs. Schwarz and Smothers. On June 5, 1975, five additional documents were made available to Messrs. Schwarz and Smothers at the Department of Justice. From our counsels' review of the foregoing, it appears that there must be certain additional documents including:

(1) a memorandum written by Former Director Hoover reflecting a meeting between him and Former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy on May 9, 1962; and

(2) underlying material reflecting an interview or interviews by the FBI of Mr. Sheffield Edwards, formerly Director of Security of the CIA and Robert Maheu, a suspect in the case.*

* The reason why it appears that there must be some such underlying material, apart from our understanding under usual practice, is that it appears that the description of such interviews in the May 22, 1961 memorandum sent to the Justice Department by the FBI is slightly different than the description of those matters in the March 6, 1967 letters from Mr. Wannall to Mr. Sullivan and from the Director of the FBI to the Attorney General.

Pursuant to our instructions, the Chief Counsel has already informally requested the above material but I understand that you wanted a letter from the Committee itself. Accordingly, today the Committee unanimously concluded that all the documents referred to above should be delivered.

The matter we are investigating is of utmost importance under our mandate. The President has, moreover, assumed the Committee and the public that all the material will be delivered to us. Obviously we will handle the material with the appropriate care as required by our Rules and agreements.

Since the material (or at least the parts specified above) is already collected, we would expect that it could be delivered forthwith.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Church
Chairman

Of course, it is possible that counsels' notes, based upon a hasty reading of both sets of documents, are incomplete but that simply illustrates why it is so important that the Committee have the actual documents.

FAOS:pam

JUNE 18, 1975

**9:00 a.m. Committee meeting to
hear Conrin, B-407**

**2:30 p.m. Committee meeting to
hear Goodwin, Johnson,
Halpern, 457 OSOB**

5:00 p.m. Don Ellisberg, G-308

OTHER MEETINGS:

10:00 a.m. Dillon/Walloch, CA610

9:30 a.m. Gould/Brothers, S-123

MEMORANDUM

To: Bill Miller
Fritz Schwarz

From: Bill Bader

Date: June 23, 1975

Subj: White House Holdings of National Security Council,
Rockefeller Commission, and CIA Files

At the request of the Committee the White House made available last Friday for Senatorial and staff examination at the White House a number of files on the subject of assassination allegations drawn from the National Security Council, the Rockefeller Commission, and the CIA. The White House has also agreed to bring these files to Capitol Hill for use by the Committee during hearings.

Over the past three days a number of Senators and the Staff have reviewed the documents with the hope that these files would provide the necessary background for the sessions scheduled this week with Messrs. Bundy, McNamara, Rusk, et al. It is the Staff's conclusion that the documents are not adequate for this purpose.

By way of background, at the time when discussion and planning of assassinations were in fashion there were several relevant layers of the National Security Council structure; the NSC Standing Group, the Special Group (whether it be called

2.

5412 or 303), the Special Group (Augmented), and the Special Group (Counterinsurgency or CI). To do a thorough job of examining the command structure as it relates to the assassination issue, the Committee will have to examine the complete records of all these groups.

The files available at the White House are not adequate for this purpose, consisting largely of Castro materials with the only complete Castro file being that of the Special Group (Augmented)/MONGOOSE files of 1962.

Available at the White House

1. Special Group (Augmented) - MONGOOSE - minutes and supporting papers for 27 meetings held between 26 February and 26 October 1962. [MONGOOSE was suspended in late October of 1962 when the U.S. struck a deal with the Russians over Cuba after the missile crisis.]

2. Various Special Group Minutes from January of 1960 to 1964:

- 13 January 1960
- 14 March 1960
- 25 August 1960
- 27 October 1960
- 3 November 1960
- 23 March 1961
- 6 October 1961
- 12 November 1963
- 18 June 1964
- 30 July 1964

3.

These minutes range from a discussion of Lumumba (25 August 1960) to Mafia plans against Castro (18 June 1964). These few documents may or may not be the sum total of Special Group consideration of "assassination" issues from 1960 to 1964. The file also includes a number of NSC memos on the Castro problem.

3. CIA files on MONGOOSE

Approximately 33 documents on MONGOOSE drawn from the CIA files. Most of these materials were once available to us at Langley. Contains a number of John McCone's notes on Special Group (Augmented) meeting.

4. Rockefeller Commission Documents on Assassinations.

- (a) "Summary of Facts of CIA involvement in Assassination Plots. An 86-page paper prepared by Rockefeller Commission staff.
- (b) Two Dominican Republic files with CIA/State material
- (c) Some material on ZRRIFLE, QJWIN and MONGOOSE

Relevant Material Not Available at the White House

The most important problem with the NSC records is the limitation -- with the partial exception of the Trujillo materials -- to the Castro issue. The NSC and its various components may never have considered the personal futures of Diem, Sukarno, Duvalier or Lumumba (beyond the one reference mentioned above), but until we review the records the Committee will not be able to speak authoritatively and confidently on the assassination issue.

4.

More specifically, the Committee should have the following records:

1. Complete files of Special Group proceeding, 1958-1964.
2. The National Security Council Standing Group meetings (CIA has at least 11 folders), 1958-1964.
3. Proceedings of the Caribbean Survey Group (the predecessor group to MONGOOSE).
4. Proceedings of the Special Group (Counterinsurgency).
5. Records of the "Operational Representatives" meetings. The working group under the Special Group (Augmented).
6. The CIA "progress reports" on MONGOOSE.
7. A Presidential Memo of 30 November 1961 on Cuban operations.